

SURVEYS OF SITES FOR LIGHT-HOUSES AND LIGHT-BOATS

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 476.]

JUNE 4, 1842.

Mr. J. C. CLARK, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Commerce, on reporting the bill authorizing surveys and examinations of proposed sites for light-houses, &c., would respectfully remark:*

That petitions, numerous and respectably signed, praying for the erection of light-houses and the placing of light-boats on the sites in such petitions described, have been referred to the committee. The committee, however, decline reporting a bill for the construction of any such works until their necessity is made apparent by examinations and surveys, by competent officers of the Government. This is the only safe course, as suggested by another report of this committee, herewith submitted.

The committee deem that part of the bill directing the exploration of existing sites of light-boats, and those proposed for new boats, with a view to their adaptation to the iron screw pile light house, highly important.

The committee have examined this new and improved model of light-house construction, and refer the House to their report made on the — day of May last, for information in regard to it.

The committee believe that most of our floating lights will give place to the screw pile lights, thereby effecting a great saving of expenditure.

As many of the light-boats are in a state of great decay, as some of them require to be replaced by new ones immediately, and as such lights are demanded by the wants of commerce at new localities, the committee indulge the hope that the House will act with promptitude on the bill authorizing the construction of such a light-house on Flynn's Knoll, near Sandy Hook. The committee have no doubt that it will answer every expectation. But it must be tried here—it has been successfully tried in England. The erection of one at Flynn's Knoll, during the current season, will put the practicability of the plan out of all dispute. New light-boats must be built the next season. The light-house proposed to be built there will be a model, and the expensive and ever decaying light-boats will be superseded by light-houses erected upon that model.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE

Presented to the Senate and House of Representatives

1870

Printed by the Government Printer, Washington, D.C.

REPORT

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